

A18, 3, 5/8

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO [REDACTED]

DATE: 19 September 1951

FROM [REDACTED] A

SUBJECT: Vial

Reference is made to our discussion in the conference of Wednesday, 19 September 1951, concerning the instant case. For any help it may be to you, I am listing below the questions that occur to me in connection with this instrument. If this list is of no value, it can be burned.

Needle

- H-813
1. Is the needle a standard medical needle designed for injection?
 2. Assuming the dimensions of the vial to determine the size of the needle, can it be determined whether the needle can be used for venipuncture, or could the needle be used for general work such as intramuscular puncture.
 3. Of what material is the needle made?
 4. Is it a high-grade material or a sloppily produced job?
 5. Could it possibly be used for animal injection?
 6. What is the diameter of the bore?
 7. If the bore is clogged, what is it clogged with--rust, blood, chemicals, etc.?
 8. Is it the type of needle that only an experienced medical man would use?
 9. Is the needle a standard medical instrument such as made in the big [REDACTED] medical manufacturing houses?
 10. Could the needle possibly be used by "scratching" such as used in common vaccination?
 11. Is the bore of the needle of sufficient size so that a gelatinous substance could be forced through it or would it necessarily have to be a liquid?
 12. Is it possible that any such needle could be used to plant crystals, dust, or powder in a human body?
 13. Does the needle occur in any [REDACTED] standard medical equipment or Army or Air Corp equipment or equipment of any related type?
 14. Would a microscopic examination indicate it had ever been used on humans or animals, i.e. minute pieces of flesh at the puncture end or possibly hair?
 15. Does the needle show any indication of being supported by a cork or plastic to hold it stiffly in place in the lower section?

The Collapsible Tube

- X
1. Can medical research determine whether or not drugs, serums, etc. are commonly handled in collapsible tubes in the [REDACTED] or the satellite countries?

- 2. What is the tube made of?
- 3. Can the tube stand heavy pressure?
- (a) Could it be filled by squirting a liquid or a jelly into it?
- (b) Would it be refillable?
- (c) Could it be used by a person carelessly in a rough or sloppy manner without damage to the tube? In short, how strong is the tube and what are its characteristics?
- 4. Were the folds at the top of the tube made by hand or by machine, or possibly by a special instrument?
- 5. Does a microscopic examination of the outside of the tube indicate that it was packed in cotton or some soft material to prevent rough treatment?
- 6. What is the best guess as to what the tube contained? Gelatin, liquid, powder, etc.?
- 7. Could the two drops that were extracted from the tube be a residue after the liquid evaporated?
- X (8. Is calcium sulphate ever the basis for a poison, a hypnotic, or chemical used in treatment of humans or animals?)
- 9. Is the tube fireproof or heatproof?
- 10. Could the entire contents of the tube be squirted through the needle in one thumb and forefinger squeeze?
- 11. Is there any indication anywhere of dosages required?
- 12. Is the small nipplelike mechanism in the mouth of the tube a type that would hold back a water solution, an alcohol solution, a powder, a gelatin solution, etc.?
- 13. From a medical point of view, could the device be used to give a quick injection, i. e. is it so designed?
- X 14. Has the original report made by the toxicologist ever been given to this agency? Can it be obtained? And why can't it be turned over to other competent people for their study?
- X 15. Why can't the people or other top-level scientists submit a series of questions to the toxicologist, re the material in the tube, for him to answer?
- X 16. Were the contents of the other tube (as well as all component parts) saved? If so, why can't they be brought to the United States for proper study?

The Container

- 1. Why is the container shaped as it is?
- X 2. As it is, it is a bulky, unwieldy object that could not be easily concealed on the person or for that matter hidden inconspicuously in many places. It is obvious that the tube is not designed for concealment or to represent anything but what it is.
- 3. Is the container fireproof?
- 4. Is the container, when both ends are on, waterproof and heatproof?
- 5. Why was the container built in such a heavy manner?

- 6. What does a scrapping of the inside of the container show under chemical analysis?
- 7. Is there any evidence that cotton or some other material was used to support the collapsible tube?
- 8. Is there any evidence to indicate that instructions came pasted on the inside of the container or on the outside or any of the component parts thereof? ~~What did the agents say in this case?~~
- X 9. Has the container (and for that matter, the entire instrument) ever been seen before?
- (a) Pictures of this should be sent to any agency or individual having working knowledge of ~~the container~~ equipment for possible identification.
- X 10. Is the container similar to any standard ~~container~~ container by outside dimensions, material, color, design, etc.?
- 11. Is the container sufficiently large to hold two of the collapsible tubes?
- X 12. Would it be possible to find out what instructions were given to the ~~toxicologist~~ toxicologist in the instant case?
- (a) I note that it was turned over to the toxicologist for "a routine check of the common drugs". It would be interesting to know in this case what was meant by common drugs.

B/3

The ~~Agents~~ Agents

1. Were they ever run on the polygraph?
2. Is there a possibility that they were drug addicts? Were there any needle-puncture marks on the arms of either of the agents? Have they had a psychiatric examination?
3. Were these agents of high, medium, or low caliber intellectually?
4. Were tests made to see whether or not the agents could administer a substance by the use of a needle?
5. Was a verbatim written report of the agents' interrogation ever submitted to this agency?
6. If these agents were low-grade, or even medium-grade operators, why would they be entrusted with such a valuable weapon?
7. Have we ever received information of a similar situation, or is there any other report that would indicate ~~the agents~~ have ever carried hypodermic equipment of any type, or has there ever been any instruction to ~~the agents~~ on how to give hypodermics?
8. Did the agents themselves ever use the instrument? If so, where, when, why, results, how used, how much given, etc., etc.?
9. Was the instrument carried on the person of the agent or in a bag with him, or was it carried in some concealed manner?
10. If the drug is represented as being so powerful, was it used on the agents themselves? If not, why not?
11. Have the agents ever seen tests made in the agent schools or read any reports on the use of this weapon?

12. Does the interrogation report indicate whether or not only one instrument was issued per agent, or were the instruments packed in a group in a special type of container that would perhaps contain ten or twelve of the instruments?

General

- B/3
1. Can the [redacted] report in this matter be obtained through liaison channels?
 2. As stated above, can we obtain any residue material left after the toxicologist's work, or even the other container or parts thereof?
 - (a) This might be valuable to determine whether or not by microscopic examination if they were built on the same machines or built by the same medical instrument manufacturing company or plastic manufacturing company.

It appears obvious that this weapon, if it is as good as stated, would be extensively used and certainly there would be rumors, gossip, or intelligence information concerning this.

3. Why would the [redacted] make a "field-laboratory" examination of this matter and not send it immediately to the best research people in the United States for study?
4. Did the agent state how much of the material in the tube was necessary to get control of an individual--all, half, one drop, or any given part?
 - (a) When the agents were seized, specifically what was the condition of both instruments?
 - (b) Were photographs taken of same at this time?
 - (c) Was the container weighed at this time?
5. Could the entire situation be a rigged job? If so, why such a crude, bulky design, or would that be part of the rig?
6. Is the collapsible tube designed to hold liquid, jelly, or powder under pressure so that if squeezed it would cause same to squirt out with considerable force?
7. Could the two drops that were found be a means of holding another solution or a biological in a solution of some sort.
 - (a) Although [redacted] rules out the biological angle, could not the biological disappear upon exposure to air and leave no trace. In connection with this, it is suggested that [redacted] might possibly have valuable information.
8. Is there any information that would indicate that germs or germ produced disease could be used or had been used as a hypnotic? In this connection, very fast acting diseases possibly producing very high temperatures are certain to have been studied by the BW groups.

For a matter of record, our research does not show any literature along these lines, but it is known that in some individuals, serums or anti-toxins will produce delerium, hallucinations, etc.

A